

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03

OMB-01 AGR-05 EB-07 /061 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - RMGIBSON:SER/INC:RHALL:MFG

APPROVED BY S/NM - DCOHEN

EA/TB - GBROBERTS

EA/RA - WGALLAGHER (INFO)

S/NM - JRAFFERTY

SER/INC - MWAMPLER (INFO)

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P 231951Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226569

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BM

SUBJECT: HELICOPTER AERIAL SPRAY APPLICATOR

REFERENCE: STATE 217486

1. A RECENTLY DEVELOPED AERIAL DELIVERY SYSTEM GIVES THE BELL 205 A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE HERBICIDE SPRAY CAPABILITY, THUS NEGATING THE REQUIREMENT FOR CONSIDERATION OF LIGHTER HELICOPTERS FOR THE BURMESE ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORT.

2. THE SYSTEM, DEVELOPED BY AMCHEM AND EVERGREEN HELICOPTERS, CONSISTS OF A 400 GALLON INTERNALLY MOUNTED FIBER-GLASS TANK AND A TWENTY-SIX (26) FOOT, OR ALTERNATELY A FIFTY (50) FOOT, BOOM MOUNTED ON NOSE HARD POINTS. NOTE: FOR MEXICO THE 26' BOOM IS BEING CONSIDERED DUE TO THE SMALL SIZE OF POPPY FIELDS. THE SPRAY SYSTEM CAN BE
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QUICKLY INSTALLED OR REMOVED WITH A MINIMUM OF EFFORT AND

EQUIPMENT. DRIFT CONTROL IS ACHIEVED THROUGH FORMATION OF NEARLY UNIFORM DROPLETS. FORMATION OF THESE DROPLETS PRODUCES A SHEET OF SPRAY RATHER THAN A DRIFTING CLOUD OF MANY SIZED DROPLETS. EXTREMELY ACCURATE DELIVERY CAN BE EFFECTED FROM ALTITUDES OF UP TO FOUR HUNDRED FEET AT SPEEDS BELOW TWENTY-FIVE MILES PER HOUR. EXPERIENCED COMMERCIAL OPERATORS IN THE US REPORT THAT IN AN AVERAGE

FLYING DAY (APPROXIMATELY FOUR HOURS) UP TO FIVE THOUSAND GALLONS OF CHEMICAL CAN BE DELIVERED. USING AN APPLICATION RATE OF TEN GALLONS PER ACRE FOR POPPY DESTRUCTION IN BURMA, THIS TRANSLATES INTO DESTRUCTION OF APPROXIMATELY FIVE HUNDRED ACRES PER DAY PER HELICOPTER.

3. CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL AND AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS, TWO OF THESE SYSTEMS COULD BE PROVIDED FOR APPROXIMATELY \$130,000, INCLUDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INITIAL SPARES. WE ARE FURNISHING DETAILS WHICH MAY BE GIVEN TO THE GUB, ALTHOUGH YOU SHOULD MAKE NO COMMITMENT ON OUR PART.

4. WHEN RUDY HALL VISITS BURMA FOR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS PROPOSED IN REFTEL, HE WILL HAVE FURTHER DETAILS. WE PLAN TO SEND MR. HALL TO TAIWAN AND SINGAPORE TO LAY OUT A SPARE PARTS AND MAINTENANCE PIPELINE NEXT WEEK, AND WE PROPOSE THAT HE MEET WITH GUB OFFICIALS THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6. PLEASE ADVISE REGARDING TIMING. ROBINSON

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